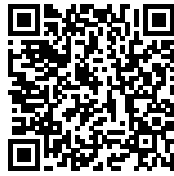




# Bill DeSteph

**Senate** District SD-008  
**Republican**

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1000 Bank St, Richmond, VA 23218



View Online

This legislator voted constitutionally on **83%** of the votes shown below.

★ Pro-liberty      ✗ Anti-liberty      ? Did not Vote      **Vote**

**1. HB1174 Second Amendment Violation (Passed 21 to 19 on 3/8/2024).** Raises the minimum age to purchase a handgun or assault firearm to 21, and expands the definition of "assault firearm" for background checks. **No** ★

**2. SB393 DEI Board Requirement (Passed 21 to 19 on 3/8/2024).** Requires the Major Employment and Investment (MEI) Project Approval Commission to consider a business' commitment to board diversity before approving major employment and investment projects. **No** ★

**3. HB1002 Green Federal Money (Passed 39 to 0 on 3/4/2024).** Requires the Virginia Department of Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to track and oversee federal grant programs, loan programs, and other funding. **Yes** ✗

**4. HB333 Environmental Justice (Passed 20 to 19 on 3/4/2024).** Clarifies that the Virginia Council on Environmental Justice can travel across the state to observe and document conditions related to human health and the environment in or near "environmental justice communities." **No** ★

**5. HB673 Project Winners and Losers (Passed 28 to 11 on 2/20/2024).** Directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to prioritize funding for projects in low-income areas and those using nature-based solutions when distributing loans or grants. **No** ★

**6. SB716 Abortion Protection (Passed 21 to 18 on 2/6/2024).** Prevents the Board of Medicine from disciplining a doctor for providing abortions that is legal under Virginia law. **No** ★



## VIRGINIA LEGISLATIVE **SCORECARD** BASED ON THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

**Sen. Bill DeSteph**  
**Lifetime Score: 67%**

**VA Scorecard 2024**  
**2024 Regular Session Score 83%**

The Legislative Scorecard is a nationwide educational program of The John Birch Society. Its purpose is to create an informed electorate on how state legislators are voting. The Scorecard is nonpartisan; it does not promote any candidate or political party. Bills are selected for their constitutional implications and cost to the taxpayers.

**Please share this Scorecard in your district to inform people about your legislator's record on key votes.**

U.S. Constitution, Amendment I --- 11 C.F.R. §114(4)(c)(4) --- 616 F.2d 45 (2d Cir. 1980)

The following scorecard lists several key votes in the Virginia Legislature in 2024 and ranks state representatives and senators based on their fidelity to (U.S.) constitutional and limited-government principles.



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# Bill Descriptions for the Votes that Affect You

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## 1. Second Amendment Violation

HB1174 raises the minimum age to purchase a handgun or assault firearm to 21, and expands the definition of "assault firearm" for background checks. Buyers must consent to a criminal history check, and dealers must verify their age. It also creates a Class 6 felony for anyone under 21 who purchases these firearms.

The Virginia State Senate passed HB1174 on March 8, 2024 by a vote of 21 to 19. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution expressly declares that the right of the American people "to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed."

## 2. DEI Board Requirement

SB393 requires the MEI Project Approval Commission to consider a business' commitment to board diversity before approving major employment and investment projects. Companies must have at least 30% of their board composed of women and historically "underrepresented" groups.

The Virginia State Senate passed SB393 on March 8, 2024 by a vote of 21 to 19. We have assigned pluses to the nays because this bill imposes government-mandated diversity quotas on private businesses, forcing them to prioritize identity over merit. It advances the Marxist DEI agenda, a tool used to erode free-market principles and individual liberties through bureaucratic control.

## 3. Green Federal Money

HB1002 requires the Virginia Department of Energy's Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency to track and oversee federal grant programs, loan programs, and other funding opportunities that can support Virginia's energy efficiency goals.

The Virginia State Senate passed HB1002 on March 4, 2024 by a vote of 39 to 0. We have assigned pluses to the nays because states should not accept federal grants, which are unconstitutional, and come with strings attached that erode state sovereignty. Rather than accepting unconstitutional federal funding — which, in this instance, also implements the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development — Virginia should nullify all unconstitutional federal acts pursuant to Article VI and the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

## 4. Environmental Justice

HB333 clarifies that the Virginia Council on Environmental Justice can travel across the state to observe and document conditions related to human health and the environment in or near "environmental justice communities." It also ensures that the Secretary of Natural and Historic Resources provides direct staff support to the Council, without delegating this responsibility to other agencies.

The Virginia State Senate passed HB333 on March 4, 2024 by a vote of 20 to 19. We have assigned pluses to the nays because no government should expand bureaucracy or enable overreach under the guise of "environmental justice." This bill risks undermining property rights and imposing an intrusive, agenda-driven surveillance operation. Virginia should reject the leftist climate agenda and protect individual freedoms.

## 5. Project Winners and Losers

HB673 directs the Department of Conservation and Recreation to prioritize funding for projects in low-income areas and those using nature-based solutions when distributing loans or grants from the Resilient Virginia Revolving Fund.

The Virginia State Senate passed HB673 on February 20, 2024 by a vote of 28 to 11. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the government should not pick winners and losers based on income or "preferred" environmental strategies. The United States were founded on the principle that "all men are created equal," and taxpayer dollars should not be used to benefit select groups over others. HB673 injects social engineering into grant distribution, favoring certain communities while sidelining others, rather than ensuring funds are allocated based on need and merit.

## 6. Abortion Protection

SB716 prevents the Board of Medicine from disciplining a doctor for providing abortions that is legal under Virginia law, regardless of where the abortion happened.

The Virginia State Senate passed SB716 on February 6, 2024 by a vote of 21 to 18. We have assigned pluses to the nays because the right to life is the most fundamental, God-given, and unalienable right asserted in the Declaration of Independence and protected by the U.S. Constitution, and SB716 violates that right. Furthermore, there should be a greater effort to provide specific protections for the right to life beyond those provided by the 4th, 5th, and 14th Amendments.